(b) if so, to what extent; and (Rs. in crore)

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) No, Sir as no such recommendation has been received in the Ministry of Finance from Government of Rajasthan.

"Violation of norms for crediting interest"

2217. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2935 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th August, 2003 and state:

(a) whether Government have received information that State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, Janak Puri Branch, New Delhi is violating the provision with regard to crediting interest by 31st March of every year and also violating on payment of interest for the month on payments made by cheque by 5th of month but cleared after that date; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) and (b) The interest on Public Provident Fund (PPF) accounts at Janakpuri, New Delhi Branch of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur is normally credited on 31st March. Interest for the last year was, however, applied on 4.4.2003 because of computer system's failure. The PPF account holders have, however, not been affected.

The date of tender of a local cheque is deemed to be the date of deposit of the cheque. The benefit of interest in such instances is passed on to the account holders by value dating the deposit.

Commercial Bank Advances to NBFCs

2218. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision in credit policy review of the Reserve Bank of India that commercial bank advances to Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) for lending to small industries would be treated as priority sector lending;